

## SCOTT WALKER

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR STATE OF WISCONSIN

P.O. Box 7863 Madison, WI 53707

June 17, 2014

Secretary Mark Gottleib Wisconsin Department of Transportation Hill Farms State Transportation Building 4802 Sheboygan Avenue P.O. Box 7999 Madison, WI 53707-7999

Dear Secretary Gottleib,

Thank you for your letter requesting aid through the Disaster Damage Aids program. As shown by the attached Executive Order #40, I declared a state of emergency in August 2011 in response to the historic timber "blow down" resulting from recurring straight line winds in excess of 100 miles per hour and associated torrential rainfall in the northwest area of the state. This timber blow down impacted critical road systems, as nearly 400 miles of roads were strewn with massive piles of downed timber, and posed a threat of increased forest fire risk.

Local governments impacted by this natural disaster incurred significant expense in removing blown down timber in an expeditious manner, including costs required to repair damage to roads due to the heavy trucks used to haul the timber and equipment. As events like this can cause financial burdens on local governments that exceed their capacity, I am pleased to approve tate funds to help meet their needs through the Disaster Damage Aids program as required under section 86.34(6), Wisconsin Statutes.

Thank you for your attention and hard work in this matter.

Sincerely,

Scott Walker Governor